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COUNTRY Argentina

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SUBJECT Precautionary Measures Being Taken by Byelorussian Communists in Argentina

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1. At a meeting on 16 May 1948 the Byelorussian Communists in Buenos Aires agreed to dissolve the Comite Bielo-Ruso de Ayuda a los Huermanos de Guerra (cf. [REDACTED]), which was established in January 1948. This committee will be replaced by La Sociedad de Socorros Mutuos Hogar Bielo-Ruso, which will serve as a cover for the continued activities of a Communist reserve net organized by (fnu) Schotz and (fnu) Savitsky*. This step was reportedly decided upon as a precautionary measure against any anti-Communist measures which the Argentine Government might take.
2. The chairman and other members of the board of this society were chosen by Pablo Schostakovsky, President of the Union Esclava. Speakers at the 16 May meeting were Savitsky*, Sergei Lub, and Trofim Laszuk, prominent Byelorussian Communist leader. Schostakovsky attended the meeting; Alexander Leonik presided. Until the Byelorussian building is completed, meetings of the new society will be held at Calle Hipolito Irigoyen 73.
3. The Soviet Embassy in Argentina has instructed Communist leaders in that country to refrain from establishing direct contacts with, and from sending parcels or money to, the Soviet Union, since such activities have been viewed with suspicion by the Argentine authorities. The Soviet Embassy believes that such transactions would be tolerated, however, if they were placed under the sponsorship of "mutual aid" societies. These instructions have been passed to Communist leaders through Schostakovsky.
4. Another instruction issued by the Soviet Embassy provided that prominent Communists must not head the newly-formed aid societies, and that Russians, and not Byelorussians, should act as a front for them. This directive met with the displeasure of Laszuk.

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Comment: It is believed that Savitsky is identical with Wencelaw Sawicki (cf. [REDACTED]), who headed the Comite Bielo-Ruso de Ayuda a los Huermanos de Guerra.

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